

SITUATION REPORT NO. 2

INCIDENT NO. 2003-122

DATE: November 25, 2003 Time: 5:00 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Serious Water intake problems at Fort Yates water treatment plant.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No deaths or injuries have been reported.
3. DAMAGES: Water intake problems at the Fort Yates water treatment plant due to intake system being plugged affecting water users in Sioux County to include the communities of Fort Yates, Porcupine and Cannonball.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: Tribal and city maintenance crews, public works and tribal officials are monitoring the situation and providing manpower and equipment to install a temporary overland water pipeline into Fort Yates.

STATE: Staff of the Governor's Office, the N.D. Department of Transportation, the N.D. National Guard, the N.D. Health Department, the N.D. Division of Emergency Management, the N.D. State Water Commission and Indian Affairs Commission have been in contact with tribal officials.

FEDERAL: Agencies assisting include the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Bureau of Reclamation.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: Media outlets as well as tribal officials are helping distribute information regarding health safety issues.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: On Tuesday, November 25, 2003 Governor John Hoeven issued a Proclamation and Executive Order addressing a water emergency in the Upper Missouri River Basin. National Guard units have been activated to assist in response to the emergency.

Tribal officials have requested one additional 6,000 gallon DOT water tanker of non-potable water for the community of Cannonball. Until an additional 6,000 gallon tanker can be secured from the Minot DOT district, a 1,500 gallon tanker will be sent to transport water to Cannonball from the 6,000 gallon tankers stationed at Fort Yates. The city of Solen was able to activate their old water supply system that has a limited capacity, providing water to their community only, while affected communities throughout Sioux County continue to utilize other sources for non-potable water usage. Bottled water has been either donated or purchased from private businesses.

The N.D. National Guard has dispatched five-400 gallon water buffalo potable water tanks, four of which will be sent to Cannonball, with a fifth tank being sent to the community of Porcupine. Three bulldozers from the Garrison Conservancy District are enroute to assist with construction of earthen berms to facilitate construction of an overland pipe system to supply water to the Fort Yates water plant.

The Fort Yates Hospital has been closed and patients have been transported to surrounding communities with hospital facilities. Representatives from the DOT, Indian Affairs Commission and DEM have been sent to Fort Yates to act as a liaison.

The N.D. Health Department provided information to tribal officials regarding a boil order for drinking water and other health safety issues. As soon as the water treatment plant is up and running the N.D. Health Department will analyze water samples for microbiological content before rescinding the boil order.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: As indicated.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director